

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 IO-13 OMB-01 /065 W

-----171201Z 078990 /12

O R 171003Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9871

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 3438

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, SHUM, ID, PT, AS

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN TIMOR

REF : STATE 59033

1. DURING MARCH 17 CALL ON FONDEPT DIRGEN FOR POLITICAL AF-FAIRS DARUSMAN, AMBASSADOR OUTLINED CURRENT PLANS FOR DUNN HEARINGS, DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON POSSIBLE QUESTIONS WHICH WOULD BE RAISED AND OUR PLANNED RESPONSES, AS SET FORTH REFTEL. AMBASSADOR OMITTED, HOWEVER, PLANNED RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON INDONESIAN SOVEREIGNTY OVER EAST TIMOR PENDING FURTHER CLARIFICATION FROM DEPARTMENT. LANGUAGE TRANSMITTED PARA 3 REF A WOULD, WE BELIEVE, ALMOST CERTAINLY BE INTERPRETED BY GOI AS STATEMENT OF USG RECOGNITION OF ITS SOVEREIGNTY OVER EAST TIMOR. WE WISH TO BE SURE THAT DEPT. HAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THIS PROBABILITY.

2. DARUSMAN THANKED US FOR INFORMATION AND STATED THAT HE, AMBASSADOR RUSMAN AND INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR TO CANBERRA NURMATHIAS HAD BEEN PREPARING AN INDONESIAN PRESENTATION REFUTING DUNN REPORT, COPY OF WHICH THEY HAD JUST RECEIVED. GOI PLANNED TO SEND AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN SYDDELL AND TIMORESE CARRASCALAO TO WASHINGTON, DARUSMAN SAID, NOTING THAT LOPEZ
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DA CRUZ MAY BE "TO BUSY" IN DILI TO GO. GOI WILL HAVE TO DECIDE, HE SAID, WHO WILL BE ITS SOLE WITNESS. INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR TO UN SANI WILL ALSO BE IN WASHINGTON TO FOLLOW DUNN HEARINGS, DARUSMAN ADDED.

3. INDONESIANS, DARUSMAN CONTINUED, ARE INCLINED TO SEE DUNN AS SPONESMAN FOR "CONSPIRATORIAL GROUP" WITH BROAD AIMS AGAINST

INDONESIA AND WONDERED WHAT MIGHT BE HIS SOURCES OF SUPPORT. DUNN WAS OBVIOUSLY SUPPORTED BY EXTREME LEFTISTS IN LABOR PARTY BUT COMPLETE PICTURE SOMEWHAT AMORPHOUS AND VAGUE, DARUSMAN SAID. IN THIS RESPECT, DARUSMAN ADDED, GOI HAD RECEIVED REPORT THAT FRETILIN LEADER HORTA WAS IN WASHINGTON AND HIS MOVEMENTS WOULD SEEM TO BE COORDINATED WITH THOSE OF DUNN. AMBASSADOR SAID WE HAD NO INFORMATION WHICH WOULD CONFIRM CONSPIRATORIAL THESIS.

4. DARUSMAN SAID THAT IF JOINT HEARINGS SHOULD RESULT IN A "NEGATIVE DECISION," GOI WAS CONTEMPLATING REQUESTING SECOND HEARING BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN GIVEN INSUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE ITS CASE. AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT DUNN HEARINGS IN THEMSELVES NEED NOT INVOLVE COMMITTED DECISION AND THAT THERE WOULD BE OTHER OPPORTUNITIES, INCLUDING UPCOMING VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN WOLFF TO INDONESIA, FOR INDONESIANS TO PRESENT GOI VIEWPOINT.

5. IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR'S QUESTION REGARDING AN ICRC PRESENCE IN EAST TIMOR (PARA 7 REFTTEL), DARUSMAN SAID INTELLIGENCE COORDINATING BOARD CHIEF YOGA WAS INCLINED TOWARD INVITING ICRC TO TIMOR BUT THAT DEFINITE DECISION HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE.

6. UPON DEPARTURE FROM FONDEPT, AMBASSADOR WAS PRESSED BY NEWSMEN TO COMMENT ON OUTCOME OF HEARINGS. HE REFUSED TO SPECULATE, BUT POINTED OUT THAT WHEN A FOREIGN WITNESS TESTIFIES BEFORE CONGRESS, EXECUTIVE BRANCH IS USUALLY GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY AS WELL. IN GIVING ITS VIEWS, EXECUTIVE BRANCH WOULD CERTAINLY KEEP IN MIND IMPORTANCE OF US-INDONESIAN CONFIDENTIAL

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RELATIONS. AMBASSADOR REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY TO QUESTION OF WHETHER HE THOUGHT INDONESIANS WOULD BE INVITED TO TESTIFY. HE CONFIRMED NEWSMAN'S FIGURES RE REQUESTED LEVEL OF 1978 SECURITY ASSISTANCE.

7. AT DARUSMAN'S REQUEST, WE ARE PROVIDING HIM WRITTEN RESUME OF POINTS MADE BY AMBASSADOR. COPY OF SAME PAPER HAS BEEN GIVEN CSIS REP LIM BIAN KIE. NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 17-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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